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Message Text

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64
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SY-10 USSS-00

SCCT-02 DRC-01 /056 W
---------- 089182
R 140130Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2640
INFO AMCONSUL DANANG

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRN, VS
SUBJECT: AIR VIETNAM HIJACKING

REF: STATE 043589

INFORMATION ON HIJACKING WAS OBTAINED FROM CONGEN DANANG, AIR VIETNAM AND DCA. ANSWERS ARE KEYED TO QUESTIONS IN REFTEL.

1. VN 437

2. DALAT

3. AIRPORT IS GUARDED BY MILITARY AND POLICE PERSONNEL. ONLY AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL PERMITTED IN TERMINAL BUILDING.

4. 0935 HOURS

5. HIJACKING OCCURRED AT 1110 HOURS, 20-30 MINUTES AFTER TAKEOFF FROM QUI NHON WHILE PLANE WAS FLYING OVER QUANG NGAI PROVINCE.

6. HIJACKER GAVE NOTE TO STEWARDESS DEMANDING THAT UNLESS AIRCRAFT FLEW TO DONG HAI AIRFIELD IN NORTH VIETNAM, HE WOULD BLOW AIRCRAFT UP. HIJACKER HELD IN HIS RIGHT HAND A SMALL DETONATOR CONNECTED TO
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EXPLOSIVES CARRIED IN A BAG SLUNG OVER HIS RIGHT SHOULDER.

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HIJACKER REMAINED SEATED WHILE STEWARDESS TOOK NOTE TO PILOT.

7. PILOT FOLLOWED HIJACKER'S DEMAND AND PROCEEDED NORTH OVER HUE TO QUANG TRI PROVINCE. PILOT CIRCLED SEVERAL TIMES OVER AREA, STOPPING ONE ENGINE THEN A SECOND. PILOT INFORMED HIJACKER THAT BECAUSE OF LACK OF FUEL AND ENGINE TROUBLES AIRCRAFT WOULD LAND AT DONG HA ("PRG" CONTROLLED AIRFIELD IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE) INSTEAD OF DONG HAI. AS SOON AS HIJACKER APPROVED CHANGE OF AIRFIELDS, PILOT CONTACTED PHU BAI AIRFIELD AND REQUESTED REMOVAL OF ALL VNAF MILITARY AIRCRAFT AND CAMOUFLAGE OF AIRFIELD TO HIDE ITS IDENTITY.

8. HIJACKER, WHO WAS FAMILIAR WITH AOG , REALIZED HE WAS NOT IN NORTH VIETNAM AND THAT HE HAD BEEN DECEIVED BY FLIGHT CREW BY THE TIME PLANE STOPPED AT END OF RUNWAY.

9. CHARGE WAS DETONATED BY HIJACKER WHO WAS STANDING AT PORT SIDE OF AIRCRAFT NEAR FIRST OR SECOND ROW OF SEATS. A HOLE ABOUT 2 X 3 METERS WAS MADE ON CBRT SIDE OF FUSELAGE, WHILE THREE STARBOARD CABIN WINDOWS WERE BROKEN. AIRCRAFT DAMAGED BEYOND REPAIR. ENGINES, PROPELLERS, AND OTHER USABLE PARTS WILL BE CANABALIZED.

10. HIJACKER DID NOT INDICATE HIS REASONS FOR HIJACKING. STEWARDESS TRIED TO CALM HIJACKER BY TALKING TO HIM BUT WAS UNSUCCESSFUL IN PREVENTING HIM FROM BLOWING UP THE AIRCRAFT.

11. HIJACKER'S NAME WAS NGUYEN CUU VIET. HE WAS 19 YEARS OLD, HAD SHORT HAIR, CHUBBY FACE, AND WAS ABOUT 5 FEET TALL. MARTIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SAIGON03355
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740343/aaaabojt.tel
Line Count: 91
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 043589
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Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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TAGS: ETRN, VS, AIR VIETNAM, (NGUYEN CUU VIET)
To: STATE
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